

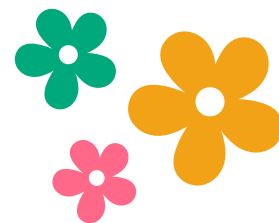
THE APPELBAUM

# DAILY CURRICULUM

Age 3-5



April



Dear Subscriber,

Happy April. We wish you a month filled with fun and laughter while teaching the activities. We have fun themes and lots of activities.

Two special holidays are this month, Earth Day and Passover. You will find them included during the week your child learns about Butterflies. We have neat themes tying them together.

This. Month we do not have a lot of things that to ask parents to bring from home. There is only one and that is a picture of their child. You may choose to take your own picture of ask them for it. Below is a sample letter you can use. Feel free to edit based on your needs.

Have a great month.

Appelbaum Training Institute



Dear Parents,

We have a great month planned for your children.

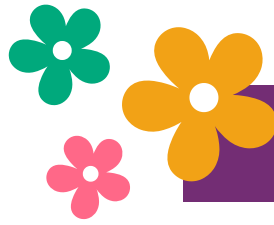
Our April Themes are:

- My Five Senses
- Spring Time Fun
- We Can Get Along Together
- Butterflies(Includes Earth Day and Passover)
- Weather








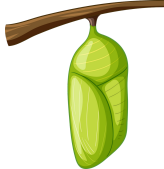





We would appreciate if you sent a picture of your child by April 5. We will be using it in an activity the following week.

Thanks so much. Looking forward to a great month. Thank you for sharing your child with us.

Sincerely,



# APRIL 2024

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>Week 1</b> <b>My Five Senses</b>	"Seeing" 	"Hearing" 	"Tasting" 	"Touching" 	"Smelling" 
<b>Week 2</b> <b>Springtime Fun</b>	"Gardens" 	"Parts of a Plant" 	"Flowers" 	"Longer Days" 	"Birds" 
<b>Week 3</b> <b>We Can Get Along Together</b>	"How We Are Alike" 	"How We Are Different" 	"Diversity Music" 	"Showing Appreciation" 	"Ways to Get Along Best" 
<b>Week 4</b> <b>Butterfly</b>	"Earth Day and Life Cycle" 	"Passover and Eggs" 	"Caterpillar" 	"Chrysalis" 	"Butterfly" 
<b>Week 5</b> <b>Weather</b>	"Sunshine" 	"Rain" 	"Icy Freeze" 	"Clouds" 	"Wind" 

Remember to plan ahead and use alternative activities for those with food sensitivities/food allergies as needed.

For any Math Counting activity, feel free to adjust the number up or down depending on the needs of your class.

# Theme for the Week



## My Five Senses

### *Activities for "Seeing"*

**Materials Needed:** Lowercase tactile letter y, (Welcome package), paper towel tubes, paints, paste, various items to decorate in Art, colored paper, stapler.



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Ask children to look at you. Then say, "How did you look at me? What did you use to see me?" Your eyes! They all point to their eyes. Explain that their eyes are one of their five senses that they will learn about this week. Children take turns naming three things they can see with their eyes. Chant: Look, look, looking. I can see and look with my eyes.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

The Letter "y"

Show the children the tactile lowercase letter y. Say, "This is "y-y-y." Have children make the sound. Have them say, "y-y-y," y-y-yarn, -y-y-yawn, y-y-yellow, and y-y-yes. Explain that the color yellow has the "y" sound too. They take turns naming a yellow object in the room. They say, "I see a yellow \_\_\_\_\_."

#### FUN ART

Binoculars

Give each child a paper towel tube cut in half. They paint and decorate both pieces of the paper towel tube. Staple them side by side to make a pair of binoculars. For decorations, they can use foil, ribbon, yarn, etc. Save for Music and Social Skills today.

#### MATH

Eye sort

Count how many eyes are in the classroom (including yours). Look in each child's eyes and name the color of their eyes. Give each child a piece of paper that corresponds with their eye color (blue, green, brown). They line up all the colored papers. How many of each eye color? Which is the most? Least? Are any the same?

#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing We Sweet Children Have a Face (tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm") We sweet children have a face. E-I-E-I-O. On our face we have two eyes. E-I-E-I-O. We use them every day. They help us learn and play. With a look, look here, (Look through binoculars made in Art today.) And a look, look there. Here a look, there a look, Everywhere a look, look. On our face we have two eyes. E-I-E-I-O.

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

Play 1 Spy (Working Together and Giving Compliments)

Children take turns being the spy child. The spy child says, "I spy something red through my binoculars." The rest of the children make guesses. Then the spy child says, "I spy a kind friend with a bow in her hair." Each child has a turn to be the spy child. They spy an object by naming its color and/or shape. Then they spy another child by giving a compliment, such as a friend who is kind, shares with me, etc.

"Teachers spy with little eyes children growing, learning and sharing."



# Theme for the Week



## My Five Senses

### *Activities for "Hearing"*

**Materials Needed:** Children's musical instruments like a drum or a pot with a wooden spoon, chart paper, empty water bottles, and/or empty oatmeal canisters, tape, non-toxic paints, lima beans and rice, picture of ear (provided), duct tape



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children a toy musical instrument such as a drum. You can use a pot and a wooden spoon as a drum if toy instruments are not available. Play the drum loudly and then quietly. Ask, "Which sound was loud and which sound was soft?" How did they know? They could hear it with their ears. Have them touch their ears. Explain that their ears give them the sense of hearing. They cup their hands over their ears and chant: Here are my ears. With them I can hear. /Go on a Sound Hunt walk if time allows.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Children take turns laughing. Ask them to share things that make them laugh. Write their responses on chart paper. When the list is complete, read it back to them while pointing to each word. Then they look at a partner and say, "I hope I can hear you laugh." They make silly faces to get their partners to laugh.

#### FUN ART

**Do You Hear What I Hear?**

Children make shakers. They paint and decorate plastic water bottles and/or empty oatmeal canisters. You drop a few large lima beans and rice inside the bottles or canisters. Then be sure to seal them tightly with strong tape. Save for Music today.



#### MATH

**Counting Sounds**

Have everyone laugh 10 times. Afterwards, say, did you hear yourselves laugh? Have everyone clap their hands 25 times. Afterwards, say, did you hear yourselves clap? Have everyone jump 30 times. Afterwards, say, did you hear yourselves jump? Say, "Our ears can hear. Y-y-yay!!!"



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing We Sweet Children Have a Face (tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm") We sweet children have a face. E-I-E-I-O. Beside our face we have two ears. E-I-E-I-O. We talk with friends and hear some songs. We can listen all day long. (Cup hands over ears.) With a listen here, (Shake shakers from Art today.) And a listen there. Everywhere a listen, listen. Beside our face we have two ears. E-I-E-I-O.



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

**Learning to Listen and Take Turns**

Practice listening. Pair children up with a partner. Each takes a turn listening to the other tell about something they love. The listener holds the ear picture.



"Do you hear what I hear? The laughter of children is music to the ears."

# The Ear



**EAR FOR SOCIAL SKILLS**

# Theme for the Week



## My Five Senses

### *Activities for "Tasting"*

**Materials Needed:** Sour pickles, plain M&M's, Goldfish crackers, chart paper, variety of foods for literacy, paper plates, colored construction paper, paste, non-toxic paints, grocery store ads, safety scissors



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Point to your eyes and have children say, "We use our eyes for seeing." Point to your ears and have the children say, "We use our ears for hearing." Then say, "Today you will learn about tasting. You use your tongues for tasting. Where are your tongues? In your mouths!" Pass around a small slice of pickle to each child. They describe the taste. Then give each child one Goldfish cracker. Describe the taste. Lastly, give one M&M. Describe the taste. Chant: Sour, salty and sweet. Our tongues can taste them all. That is so neat! (Caution: Always double check for food allergies before teaching with food.)



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### Salty or Sweet?

Children make lists. Write the words SALTY and SWEET on top of a piece of chart paper. Children take turns tasting a food and saying, "These raisins are sweet." "These Goldfish crackers are salty." Provide a variety of food samples such as pretzels, M&M's, carrots, potato chips, etc. (Caution: ALWAYS double check for allergies when teaching with food. Avoid using foods that can cause choking.) (All wash hands thoroughly before activity.)



#### FUN ART

##### Eyes, Ears and Mouth

Children paint eyes onto a paper plate. Then they tear construction paper to paste on the sides of the plates as ears. They draw a big mouth. Tear out a small red piece of paper and paste it as a tongue in the mouth. Have them look at grocery store ads from the newspaper and cut out a few of their favorite foods. They paste their foods by their mouths on the paper plates.



#### MATH

##### Let's Count

Children sing and hold up their fingers: Here is one finger, and now there are two. I can pick up a cracker for you. This is three fingers and now there are four. Would you like one cracker more? Now look at my whole hand it has five. Let's do a dancing jive. Here come six, seven and eight. What is the favorite snack you ate? Now, look at nine and then comes ten. We can count all over again!



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing We Sweet Children Have a Face (tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm") We sweet children have a face. E-I-E-I-O. On our face we have a mouth. E-I-E-I-O. In our mouths we have tongues. So we can taste and say, "Yum." Tasting with our tongues. Sour. Eek. Salty. Mmmm. Sweet. Yum. With a yum, yum here, and a yum, yum there. Everywhere a yummy. In our mouths we have tongues.

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### Let's Pretend Share

Tell the children to think of their very favorite food that they love to taste and eat. Ask them what it is. Then tell them that it is good to share food with others. Have them each get a partner and take turns playing a pretend game that they are going to eat their favorite food. They say to their partner, "I have \_\_\_\_\_(the special food). Would you like to share it with me?" The other child says, "Yes, thank you." They pretend to eat the food, and say, "Yum, yum, it's so good. It's good to share."



# Theme for the Week



## My Five Senses

### *Activities for "Touching"*

**Materials Needed:** A drawstring bag with small items from inside the classroom, like a block, Lego, crayon, etc. for Literacy; A variety of textures like cotton balls, feathers, sandpaper, different kinds of fabric, tissue paper, regular paper, etc., for Art



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Children follow your lead: Drum your hands on the floor. Wave your hands in the air. Clap your hands. Give a high five. Shake a friend's hand. Say, "You can do so many things with your hands. Your hands help you touch and feel things. Things that are soft, hard, sticky, hot, cold, etc." Chant: Eyes, ears, mouths and hands! Learning our senses is so grand!



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### The Mystery Bag

Tell the children that the bag is called a "mystery bag" because they are going to have to be like detectives reaching inside the bag and touching one thing and guessing what it is. Once they guess, they can take the object out of the bag. Everyone claps, and another child takes a turn touching an object inside the bag and guessing what it is. Do this until all the children have had a turn.

#### FUN ART

##### "My Beautiful Texture Collage"

Give each child a variety of textures, paste, and a large sheet of paper. They create a collage using different textures. When they are finished, ask them which item on their paper felt soft, which didn't feel soft. Which was their favorite to touch? Why?

#### MATH

##### "Counting and Touching Fun to 30"

Tell the children that when they clap their hands, they are touching their hands together. When they stamp their feet, they are touching the floor with their feet. Say, "We are going to count and touch to the number 30 each time. Have them clap their hands as they count to 30. Example: 1, clap, 2, clap, 3, clap, etc. Then have them stamp their feet counting to 30, 1, stamp, 2, stamp, 3, stamp, etc. Other variations are, "Clap your thumbs," "Tap your pinky on your knee."

#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing We Sweet Children Have Hands (tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm") We sweet children have two hands. E-I-E-I-O. On our hands we have fingers. E-I-E-I-O. With our fingers we can touch. Is it hot or cold or nothing such? With a touch, touch here, And a touch, touch there. Here a touch, there a touch, Everywhere a touch, touch. On our hands we have fingers. E-I-E-I-O.

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### Keep Our Hands to Ourselves

Remind children that sometimes people do not like to be touched and it is important to respect that. Explain that while sitting in the circle for lessons, stories and activities, they are to keep their hands to themselves. Teach them to sing and act out with their hands: Open, shut them. Open, shut them. Put them in my lap.

"Teachers truly touch the future."

# Theme for the Week



## My Five Senses

### Activities for "Smelling"

**Materials Needed:** Tactile lowercase y for Literacy, cinnamon, yellow yarn, powdered gelatin, Q-tips, construction paper, chart paper, sticky notes, vanilla extract, peppermint extract, cotton balls.



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Pass around cinnamon and have children smell it. Ask them if they used their ears to smell the cinnamon. No. Did they use their eyes to smell it? No. How did they smell?

With their noses! Children point to their noses and chant: Here is my nose. It can smell.

Sniff. Sniff. Children share their favorite smells.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Fun with y-y-yellow y-y-yarn

Show the children the lowercase tactile "y." Have them say, "y-y-y." Say "Y-y-yellow y-y-yarn begins with 'y-y-y.'" Give each child three short pieces of yellow yarn. They make the shape of the letter y. They describe how the yarn feels. Then they can make other letters with their yarn and share with the group the name of the letter and its sound.



#### FUN ART

Sweet Smelling Textured Art

Mix powdered gelatin with water. Children use Q-tips as paint brushes and paint with the gelatin. Let it dry. Smell it. Feel it.



#### MATH

Charting Favorites

Give each child a sticky note. Write PEPPERMINT and VANILLA on the top of chart paper. Put peppermint extract on a cotton ball and let each child smell it. Then put vanilla on a cotton ball to smell. They place their sticky notes in the column of their favorite smell. Which column has the most votes? How many votes in each column?



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing We Sweet Children Have a Face (tune of "Old MacDonald Had a Farm") We sweet children have a face. E-I-E-I-O. On our face we have a nose. E-I-E-I-O. We smell with it all the time. When we sniff we can smell. Stinky or sweet we can tell. With a sniff, sniff here, And a sniff, sniff there.

Here a sniff, there a sniff, Everywhere a sniff, sniff. On our face we have a nose. E-I-E-I-O.

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

Five Senses Review (Working Together)

Children sit face to face with a partner. You ask, "How can you see?" They look at each other and touch their own eyes. You ask, "How can you hear?" They look at each other, say a kind word to the other, and touch their own ears. You ask, "How can you touch?" They give high fives and wave their hands in the air. You ask, "How can you smell?" They sniff and touch their own noses. You ask, "How can you taste?" They point to their own tongues and tell their partners their favorite foods. Chant: Learning is fun with our friends.



"Explore the world through the senses of children."



# Theme for the Week



## Springtime Fun

### *Activities for "Gardens"*

**Materials Needed:** Fresh or artificial flowers and vegetables, soil, clear cup, seeds to plant a flower or vegetable, pictures of flower garden and vegetable gardens (provided); lowercase tactile letter v (Welcome Package), picture of "These are v-v-vegetables" provided for Literacy, large grocery sack or brown paper, paintbrushes, brown and green non-toxic tempera paint, vase for live flowers (Be sensitive to allergies. Use alternatives as needed.)



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Have each child bring fresh or artificial flowers or vegetables. Discuss how these are grown in gardens. (Save in vase with water for use tomorrow if real.) Gardens need soil, water (rain or garden hose or watering can), seeds, air, sun and space to grow. Talk about how the dirt and fertilizer are planted in the ground. Dig. Plant one seed using Vegetable Gardens included. Use as needed.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### The Letter "v"

Show the children the tactile lowercase letter "v." Say, "This is a 'v-v-v.'" Have children make the sound, v-v-v. Tell them they are talking about gardens today, and vegetables can grow in a garden. Vegetables begin with the letter v-v-v. Show them the picture called "These are v-v-vegetables" (provided). Name each one with the children saying, "carrots are v-v-vegetables, cucumbers are v-v-vegetables, etc. (Save the picture of "These are v-v-vegetables" for Wednesday.)



#### FUN ART

##### Garden Veggie Seed Planting

Using a paintbrush and dark brown non-toxic paint, children paint three straight lines on the brown paper bag or brown paper representing 3 rows of soil. When it is dry, they dip their pinky into tempera into brown or the green non-toxic tempera paint and stamp "seeds" on the paper.



#### MATH

##### Garden Sort and Count

Children sort and count flowers and/or vegetables with a partner. Have them draw a picture of what they sorted and counted.



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

It's Time to Garden (to the tune of If You're Happy and You Know It) Children form a large circle and sing: It's time to garden and you know it, water the seeds. (Children do motion like watering from watering can.) It's time to garden and you know it, water the seeds. It's time to garden and you know it, and the plants will surely show it, it's time to garden and you know it, water the seeds. It's time to garden, watch them grow! (Children jump up high with hands pointing in air to show growth.) It's time to garden, watch them grow! It's time to garden and you know it, and the plants will surely show it, it's time to garden and you know it, Watch them grow!

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### Rotating Flower Share

Make a kind words and thoughts list with the class first. Children sit in two rows facing each other. (Teacher participates if someone is without a partner.) Only one child has a flower. They take turns holding the flower and saying something kind to the classmate sitting across from them. Next, rotate. One row moves down one spot so they are now in front of the next classmate. They take turns holding the flower and saying something kind to the other classmate. (Each time, the child on the end of the moving row, gets up and goes to the other end of that row.) Repeat until there are no new partners.



# Pictures of Flower Gardens





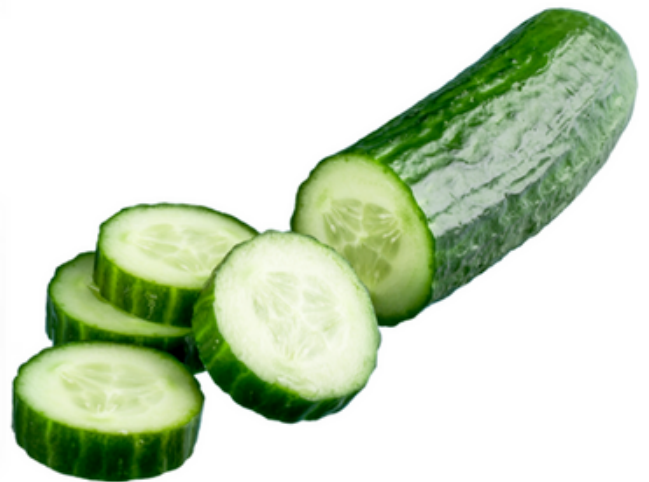
# Vegetable Garden Pictures



# These are v-v-vegetables.



**carrots**



**cucumber**



**celery**



**corn**

# Theme for the Week



## Springtime Fun

### *Activities for "Parts of a Plant"*

**Materials Needed:** Real flower and/or picture of a flower (provided), 12 x 18 construction paper, crayons, sticky notes, finger paints, green paper, coffee filters, photo sample for Art (provided), leaves from outside, brown yarn, paste, sunflower seeds



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Pass around a real flower and/or picture of a flower (provided). Point out the parts: roots, stem, leaves, and flower. Children repeat after you: Roots grow in the dirt. Up comes a stem with leaves. On top is a flower so pretty!



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### Labeling Plant Parts

Draw a large plant with roots, stem, leaves and flower on 12X18 construction paper.

Write on sticky notes: flower, stem, leaves, and roots. Children help you label the drawing. Next, they label their own flowers made in Art today with a crayon or sticky notes.



#### FUN ART

##### Parts of My Plant

Children paste brown yarn on the bottom of construction paper to be roots. Next, they paint a green stem growing up from the roots. Next, they paste cut pieces of green paper as leaves. Lastly, they paste a flattened coffee filter on top of the stem. They can paint a colored center of the flower and/or paste sunflower seeds in the center of the flower. See photo sample (provided) as a guide. Save for Literacy today.



#### MATH

##### Leaf Line Up

Review the parts of a plant. Ask, "What is the name of the plant that grows from the stem?" Leaves. Children go outside and collect leaves. Inside, they put all their leaves together and line them up from smallest to largest. Count them all. Separate them into a pile of small leaves and a pile of large leaves. Which pile has more? Less?



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing The Parts of a Plant (tune of "The Wheels on a Bus") The roots of a plant grow in the ground, in the ground, in the ground. The roots of a plant grow in the ground, all through the ground.

The stem of a plant grows from the roots, from the roots, from the roots. The stem of a plant grows from the roots, all from the ground. The leaves of a plant grow from the stem, from the stem, from the stem. The leaves of a plant grow from the stem, all with water. Flowers from a plant grow so pretty, so pretty, so pretty. Flowers from a plant grow so pretty, in the garden.

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### Parts of Me (Appreciating Each Other)

Explain to the children that just like plants have different parts to grow pretty flowers, they too have different parts that make them grow pretty too. Have them point to their smiles and say, "My smile is a sweet part of me." They put their hands over their hearts and say, "My heart is a kind part of me." They give high fives and hugs and say, "My hands help me hug and give a high five?" Chant: Smiles, hearts and hands. Parts of us that make us grand!



"The parts of a happy child (smile, cheerful heart and confidence) are grown in child care."





**FLOWER FOR CIRCLE ACTIVITY**

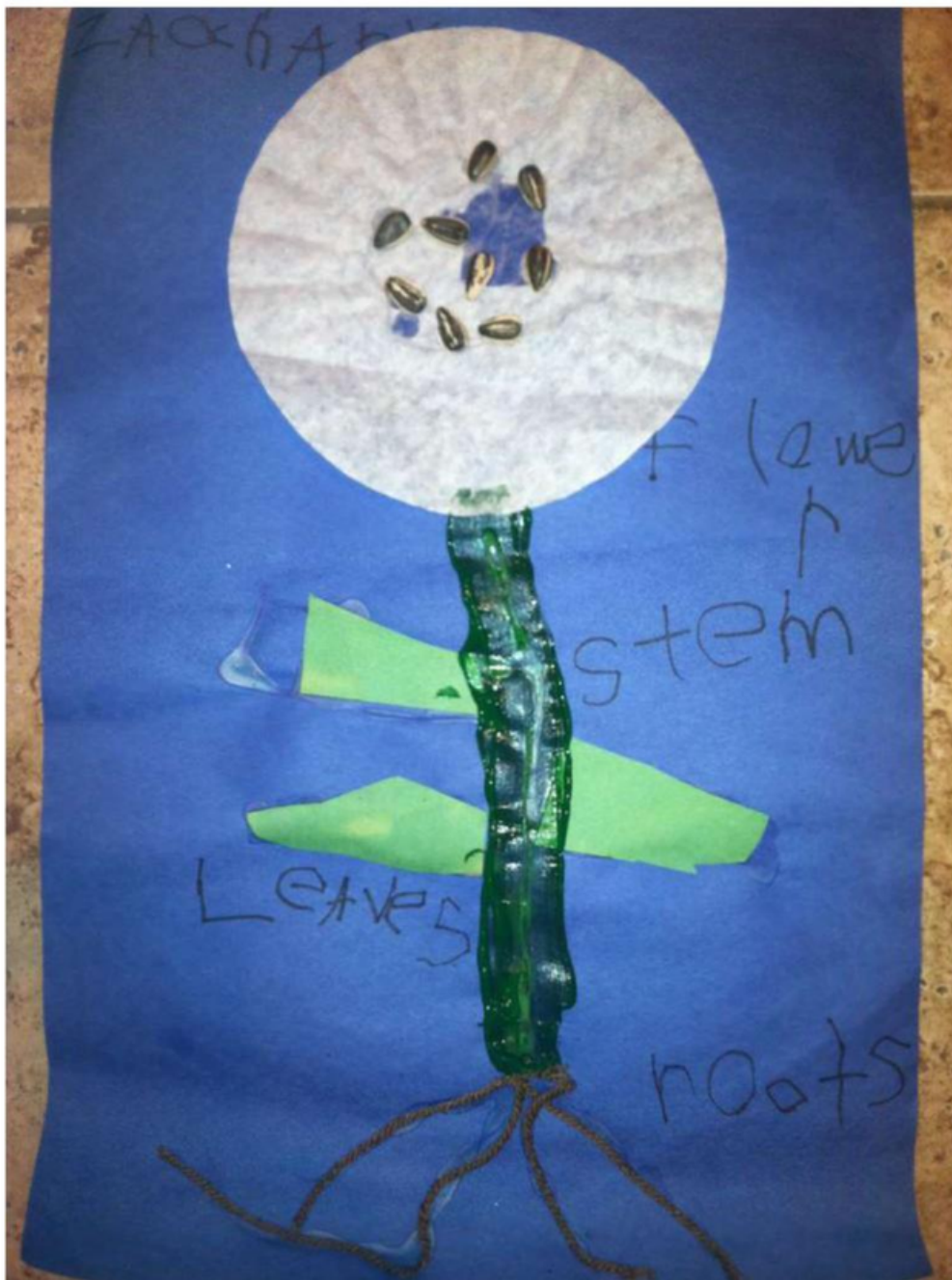


PHOTO SAMPLE FOR LITERACY AND ART

# Theme for the Week



## Springtime Fun

### *Activities for "Flowers"*

**Materials Needed:** Green pipe cleaners, colored tissue paper, cake pan of sand, dessert-sized paper plates, non-toxic paints, green construction paper, picture of each child, permanent marker, crayons, fun music & player, tape, beanbag, whiteboard and marker, picture from Monday, of "These are v-v-vegetables" used on Monday.



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Give each child a green pipe cleaner. Tell them to pretend it is a flower stem. Explain that flowers come in all different colors. Each child shares the color of flower They would like to have. Give that color of tissue paper to the child. They scrunch the tissue paper and press it on top of the green pipe cleaner to make a flower. Carefully, wave the flowers and chant: Flowers are different like you and me. Flowers are pretty and special like you and me too.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

"It's v-v-very ..

Draw a v on a whiteboard. Show the children how it has two lines and they come to a point at the bottom. Have them make a "v" in the air. Then show the children the picture called, "These are Vegetables" from Monday. Ask them which one they like "v-v-very much." When they choose one, they say, "I like this -v-v-very much," and when they say "v-v-very," they make a "v" in the air. Then ask them what else they like v-v-very much like their mom, a friend, a toy. Each time they say they like something "v-v-very" much, they make a "v" in the air.



#### FUN ART

Cute Class Flower Garden

Children paint dessert-sized paper plates a color of their choice. Then they paint the center area a second color of their choice. Once dry, paste a picture of each child in the center of the plate. They can cut the plate into a different shape if they choose. Paste green strips of construction paper to the plates to become stems. (Use different lengths of green paper.) Next, staple all of the flowers to a bulletin board to create a class flower garden. Last, children tape paper leaves onto the stems on the bulletin board. (Note: Save the plates for Music today before stapling them to the bulletin board.)

#### MATH

Numbered Flower Toss

In advance, number 10 paper plates from 1 - 10 with a permanent marker. Then have the children color each plate a solid color and staple a piece of green paper to the plate to become a stem. Scatter the plates on the floor. Children toss a beanbag onto a plate. They say the number and move that number of times. (Movements can be jumps, claps, spins, etc.)

#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Musical Flower Friends

Place all of the flower plates from Art in a big circle on the floor. Children walk around the circle of flowers while you play fun music. Stop the music. They freeze and name the flower friend face that is in front of them. Repeat several times.

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

Pass the Flower (Speaking Kind Words) (Class version)

Remind children that flowers are pretty and can remind us to speak "flowery pretty" words to each other. "Flowery pretty" words are kind words. Children take turns passing a real or paper flower (previously provided) around the circle. The child holding the flower says a flowery kind comment about the class this time.

"Teachers water the life of children to help them bloom into beautiful flowers."

# Theme for the Week



## Springtime Fun

### *Activities for "Longer Days"*

**Materials Needed:** Paper plates, yellow and orange paints, photo sample (provided), paste, 10 pre-cut triangles for each child, crayons, yellow butcher paper



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Ask children what they can see in the sky when it is night time. Darkness, the moon, stars, etc. Ask what they can see in the sky in the day time. Sun, clouds, birds, etc. Explain that the sun stays out longer to make longer days during the spring time. Children chant: Sun, sun, you bring fun. Sun, sun, you make the days long. Sun, sun, we play with friends and get along.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### Afternoon Story

Explain that during this spring time of year the days are longer because there are more hours of sunshine. This gives more time to play outside. Children take turns sharing three things they like to do outside when they go home. They act out their three activities. (Example: I kick a ball. I ride my tricycle. I run in the yard.)



#### FUN ART

##### Let Your Sun Shine

Pre-cut the center circle out of paper plates. Children paint the rim of the plate yellow and/or orange to become a sun. Next, they use their colored triangles from Math today to paste around the rim of their paper plates. See photo sample (provided) as a guide. Save for Music today.



#### MATH

##### Pattern Sun Power

Pre-cut several triangles out of white construction paper. Make them big enough to be pasted onto the rim of paper plates in Art today.) Give each child 10 triangles. They color five triangles orange and five yellow. Have them count each group of five and then all ten together. Show them  $5+5=10$ . Then they place them in a pattern yellow, orange, yellow, orange, etc. Save for Art today.



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

##### Sing I'm a Little Sunshine (tune of "I'm a Little Teapot")

Children hold their sun shine plates from Art in front of their faces while singing:

I'm a little sunshine out all day. (Point to self.)

Here is my big smile. Here are my rays. (Point to smile.)

When I get all steamed up, hear me shout;

Play outside and run all about! (Run in place.)

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### Playing in the Sun is Fun

Place a large yellow circle (cut out from butcher paper) on the floor at one end of the room or playground. Children take turns holding hands with a partner and jumping to the sun and back to the start together. They say, "I love playing in the sun with you! You are a sunny fun friend of mine."

"Take time to do something special for you during these longer days of sunshine."





PHOTO SAMPLE FOR ART



# Theme for the Week



## Springtime Fun

### *Activities for "Birds"*

**Materials Needed:** Picture of a bird and trees (provided), chart paper, white construction paper, finger paints, butcher paper, precut birds (provided), tape.



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Ask children what's alive that can fly in the sky. A bird. Show them a picture of a bird (provided). Tell them that birds fly back during the spring time after going away for the winter. Ask them where birds sleep. In nests in trees. Show them pictures of trees (provided). Chant: All the birdies went bye-bye. Now it is spring time so they're back to say hi.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### The Story of a Bird

Children make up a story about a day in a bird's life. You start the story by saying, "A very cute bluebird was sleeping in a nest high in a tree. The bluebird woke up and looked around, and took a v-v-very big stretch. , The cute bluebird had a v-v-very good friend that lived in a tree, so the bluebird went..... " Ask the children what comes next. Write down what the children say. When the story is finished, read it back to children and have them act out the parts like the bird is sleeping, flying, looking around, and stretching.



#### FUN ART

##### Birds in the Breeze

Take the children outside with construction paper and finger paints. They sit in a comfortable area and look for birds in the sky. Then they paint a picture of a bird (or anything outside like a tree, flower, etc.) on white paper. They take turns standing and sharing their art work.

#### MATH

##### How Many Birds are in the Tree?

Place several pre-cut birds (provided) in a basket or bag. Draw a large tree on butcher paper. Say, "Show me three birds in the tree." A child tapes three paper birds in the tree. Repeat with different numbers of birds in the tree at a time.

#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

##### Sing and Act Out I am a Little Bird

I am a little bird going hop, hop, hop. (Children crouch and hop.)

I see my friend and stop, stop, stop. (They hop to a partner and stop.)

We go to our nest way up high. (Partners point up high.)

Then together away we fly. (Partners stand and pretend to fly.)

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### A Little Birdie Told Me (Giving Compliments)

Children sit in a circle. Child A tells Child B, "I like Child C's smile?" Then child B tells Child C, "A little birdie told me that you have a nice smile." Play continues until all children have given and received a compliment.



"Tweet, tweet, tweet. Teachers are terrific and so very neat."



**PICTURES FOR CIRCLE ACTIVITY**



**BIRDS FOR MATH ACTIVITY**

# Theme for the Week



## We Can Get Along Together

### *Activities for "How We Are Alike"*

**Materials Needed:** Children bring a favorite book from home, variety of dry pastas for Art and Math, nontoxic paints, paint brushes, paper bowls



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Say, "Welcome to child care today! You are all sitting here in the circle with me, and that is so awesome. Each one of you is so special and has many things alike. Let's name them. You are all sitting in a circle, you have smiles, you have on shoes, you are \_years old, etc." Turn to your neighbor and name something you have alike such as eyes, hands, same color shirt, etc.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### Our Favorite Books

Each child chooses a favorite book in the classroom or brings a favorite book from home. Did anyone choose the same book or one with the same characters? If so, they are alike in the books they have as favorites. Children raise their hands if they like books. That is something else they have alike. Read some favorite pages from the chosen books throughout the day.



#### FUN ART

##### Pasta All Alike

Children paint the pasta from Math today. They paint all of the penne the same color, all of the rotini a different color, etc.

#### MATH

##### Which Pasta is Like the Other?

Fill small bowls with a variety of dry pasta such as ziti, rotini, penne, etc. Children notice how they are all different shapes. Then they sort the pasta and tell how the pieces are alike. (Example: All of the penne looks like a tube.) Count how many there are of each type of pasta. Which has more and which has less? Save for Art today.

#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

##### Sing and Act out We're Alike and Friends Too

I wave hello, hello, hello to you. (Wave to a friend.)

We are alike and friends too. My hands can clap with you. (Give a high five to a friend.)

We can color pictures too.

So many things we like to do. Having fun, me and you.

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### How are We Alike? (Learning About Each Other)

Children sit in a circle and take turns answering questions. If the answer is yes, they do thumbs up, and see who is like them. If the answer is no, they do a thumbs down and see who is like them.

Sample questions: Do you like ... ice cream, pizza, singing, building blocks, broccoli, apples, puzzles, etc.?



"Children are alike in their need for love, fun, safety and routine."

# Theme for the Week



## We Can Get Along Together

### *Activities for "How We Are Different"*

**Materials Needed:** Whiteboard and marker for Literacy, flour, salt, large bowls, mixing spoons, food coloring, measuring cups and spoons, airtight containers



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

One child stands up and children share their favorite thing about the child standing. Continue until each child has a turn to stand and hear compliments. Explain that there are some things about your friends that are not the same for you and that is a difference. It is okay to be different. Chant: We celebrate each other - being alike and different too.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Sight Words: "Reading with the Word, "the"  
Write on the left side of a whiteboard, the word, "the." Tell the children this is a special word that is used a lot in books. Have the children say, "the." Write underneath the word, "the," "the cat." Children read "the c-c-a-a-t-t.." Then write "the mat," and have children read "the m-m-a-a-t-t.." Do this also with the words bat and hat." Afterwards, start at the top, and have the children read each line with you. Tell them words are different and they rhyme.



#### FUN ART

##### Different Kind of Creation

Children use the textured paints made in Math today to create a picture of their choice on a long piece of butcher paper. They share their pictures when everyone has finished and celebrate the different ways people painted with the different kinds of paint. Explain that they were all alike in using textured paint on the same butcher paper, but each different picture made a unique piece of Art!

#### MATH

##### A Different Kind of Paint

Children use math to help you make textured paint for Art by following this recipe and counting out each ingredient. Repeat the recipe for additional paint colors.

- Mix 1 cup flour with 2 tsp. salt in a large bowl.
- Add one cup water and mix well with a spoon.
- Add a few drops of food coloring.
- The paint will have a gritty, thick texture.
- Store in airtight containers.

#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing and Act Out Love Your Friends (tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat") Love, love, love your friends Different they may be. Playing, laughing, caring, sharing, Fun for you and me.

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### Dancing Different Fun

Tell children that they are very special and being different is okay. Explain that a fun way to be different is with dance moves. Make up a tune and sing as each child takes a turn dancing in the circle: There's someone special dancing different right now. Oh, there's someone special dancing different right now. It's, Jane Doe, Jane Doe, Jane Doe. It's Jane Doe dancing different right now! (Substitute children's names for Jane Doe.)

"Teachers can help children appreciate and honor differences."



# Theme for the Week



## We Can Get Along Together

### *Activities for "Diversity Music"*

**Materials Needed:** Whiteboard and marker for Literacy, colored construction paper or paper plates, non-toxic paints, paint brushes, chopsticks, plastic forks and/or spoons, different colored scarves or streamers



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Come to the circle and sing: Hello, hola, shalom, bonjour, salem. Explain that these are different ways to say hello in different languages. Ask if they know other ways to say hello. Explain that people all over the world speak different languages. They all say hello in ways that sound different. Chant: It is fun to say hello in any language! (Note: Be sure to include the home language of any of the children.)



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Going on a "the, The" Treasure Hunt

Write on the whiteboard, the words, "the, and The." Explain to the children that they both sound the same, they are the same word. Then have children get out their favorite books from Monday, and look for "the, The." When, they find it, they say, "Yay, I found "the."



#### FUN ART

Blending Colors

Children paint a red section on plain paper and then a yellow section. Explain that the two colors are different. Then mix together the red and yellow paints. It makes orange! Now they paint a section of orange. Explain that they can use different colors to make new colors and it is fun to have different friends to make a new friendship too! (Repeat with red and blue to make purple and yellow and blue to make green.)



#### MATH

Chopstick Counting

Children practice using chopsticks to pick up items like cotton balls. They count as they pick up the cotton balls and place them in a big bowl. Repeat using a plastic fork and/or spoon. Explain that people all around the world eat food. They have different ways of eating their food.



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Chant and Act Out Love is Like a Circle

Love is like a circle. It goes round and round. (Circle motion with finger.)

Loving others is so sweet and smart. (Point to head.)

Love is deep inside my heart. (Put hands on chest.)

I have love for you trying to get out. (Pull hands away from chest.)

Look! My love is swirling all about! (Move hands in a spinning motion.)



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

Celebration of Diversity Parade

Children march around the room waving different colored scarves or streamers. They chant: We are loved and we love too. Love, love, love a different you. We care and share. We show love from here to there. Hug, hug, hug, hug. Smile, smile, smile, smile. Let's spread love across a million miles.

"Different or alike - love others with all your might."

# Theme for the Week



## We Can Get Along Together

### *Activities for "Showing Appreciation"*

**Materials Needed:** Chart paper, white construction paper, crayons, ribbon, tissue paper, foil, etc., yarn, 20 pieces of plain paper, scissors



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Give each child a handshake and say, "Thank you for being here today. I appreciate\_\_\_\_\_." Name an appreciation, such as their smile, how they share, how they sit in the circle, their listening ears, etc. After greeting each child, explain that showing appreciation means you tell a person thank you for a great thing they do. Explain that it is easier to get along with others when they do things that other people appreciate. Chant: We can say thank you and show appreciation too.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Word of the Day: appreciation

Explain to children that appreciation is letting a person know that you like something they do and you want to thank them for it. Children turn to the friend sitting beside them and complete the sentence: I appreciate \_\_\_\_\_." about you. Write down what each child says. Read it back to the class pointing to each word.



#### FUN ART

Clapping Hands

Trace each child's hand onto construction paper. Cut it out and write their names in the palms of the drawing. They decorate their paper hands using crayons, ribbon, tissue paper, glitter, foil, etc. Attach their two hands together with a 12 inch piece of yarn. Now they have a pair of clapping hands. They can clap to show appreciation!



#### MATH

Sequence With Friends and Give Thanks

Number 20 papers from 1 - 20. Scatter them on the floor and have children work together to put them in order. Children take turns jumping to each paper while singing: Jump, jump, jump the numbers. Jumping all day long. Merrily, merrily, merrily, make life an appreciation song. They freeze and say something they appreciate at child care!



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing and Act Out Thank Your Friends (tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat")

Thank, thank, thank your friends. (Walk around and high five friends.) For the good they do. Merrily, merrily, merrily, you are neat. Thank you! (Point to a friend.) Thank you! (Give hugs.)



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

Giving Thanks Fills the Heart

We cannot see each other's real hearts inside our bodies, but when we hear words of appreciation, our hearts fill up and feel bigger. Walk around the circle and say to each child, "You are a super duper special child." Children share a kind comment to a friend. Help children learn kind appreciations to say. They can say to a friend: Thank you for being my friend. Thank you for sharing the blocks. Thank you for making me laugh. After each child receives an appreciation, children hold hands and chant: Thank you for filling my heart friend!

"Appreciation for teachers has a residual effect because what you give keeps giving in years to come."

# Theme for the Week



## We Can Get Along Together

### *Activities for "Ways to Get Along Best"*

**Materials Needed:** Large flat bed sheet, white poster board, crayons that are different colors.



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Place a flat twin bed sheet on the floor. Have all the children stand around the sheet and hold it together. They lift the sheet up over their heads and then down to the ground. Talk about how everyone must help for the sheet to go up and down. They have to get along to move the sheet. Chant: We can move the sheet up and down. Getting along brings it to the ground.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### Act Out a Getting Along Story

Write this poem on chart paper. Point to each word and have the children act it out after reading it to the group a couple of times first. Two kind friends walking hand in hand, (Two children hold hands walking.) They are showing appreciation all over the land. (Spread arms wide open.) A hug for Zach and a high five for Sue. (Give hug and high five to a friend.) It is fun to show I like you. (Point to person receiving hug or high five.)



#### FUN ART

##### Let's Make a Class Drawing

Have a large poster board on children's eye level. Children take turns choosing a color and drawing a design on the poster board. When they all finished. Talk about how some children chose different colors to crayon with, and they all made different designs, but when you put them all together they make a neat design. Explain that it is the same when everyone in the class gets along appreciating each other. We are a beautiful classroom filled with sweet friends.



#### MATH

##### Sing and Act Out Friends For Me

Five friends playing with me. The first one said, "Be the best you can be." The second one said, "Getting along is great, don't you know?" The third one said, "Yes, and I like to play with you as we grow." The fourth one said, "I'm happy you're a friend of mine." The fifth one said, "You are mighty fine." Five little friends sitting by me. All kind as kind can be.



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

##### Sing and Act Out Getting Along

Shake, shake a hand, shake a hand next to you. Let's work together to get along too. Hug, hug a friend as we sing this song. It is so much fun to always get along. Hold, hold a hand as we sit right down. It is fun sitting with friends on the classroom ground.



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### Please Keep Hands to Your Self

Children practice sitting in a circle with their hands in their laps. Show them how to keep their hands in their laps or give themselves a hug so that their hands do not touch anyone else. Explain that circle time is a time to respect others by keeping your hands to yourself. Chant: I keep my hands right here touching me. That's the way our circle time should be.

"Cooperation is a lifelong skill. Thank you for teaching this to our future."

# Theme for the Week



## Butterfly

### *Activities for "Earth Day and Life Cycle"*

**Materials Needed:** Picture of earth (provided), pictures of butterflies (provided) round paper plates, Lowercase tactile letters v and w (Welcome Kit), paste, Picture of How People Grow (provided), picture of how the butterfly grows



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Tell the children that today is a very special day called Earth Day. It is a day we celebrate and think about how we can make where we live, the earth, safe and help things grow. Remind them how they learned about gardens last week. Tell them that gardens, animals and people grow on the earth (Show them picture of the earth (provided)). Show them the picture of How People Grow from a Baby (provided). Tell them this week, they are going to learn about something special, a butterfly (provided) and how it grows. Butterflies are part of life on earth.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### The Letter "w"

Show the children the tactile lowercase letter w. Say, "This is "w-w-w" Have children make the sound. Then show them the tactile letter v from last week. Have them say v-v-v. Ask them what's different? Talk about how they look the same and different. Tell them that w-w-walk begins with w-w-w and so does the word, w-w-w. Put the picture of the earth from circle time in the center of the circle. Have each child hold the tactile lowercase w and walk around the circle, while the rest of the children chant, "W-w-w take turns w-w-walking around the earth. Yay for us."



#### FUN ART

##### Cycle of Butterflies Art

Tell the children they are going to learn how a butterfly first starts and how it grows (picture provided). First there are eggs. Second there is a caterpillar. Third is a chrysalis. Fourth is a butterfly. Children repeat as you point to each word. Give the children a round large paper plate. Have them decorate it with colors. Then, give each child the cut out picture of the egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, and butterfly. They paste each on the paper plate. Afterwards, they chant, "This is how butterflies grow."



#### MATH

##### Counting Leaves

Explain that caterpillars like to eat leaves and that keeps them healthy so later they can become butterflies as part of their life cycle. Children go for a walk and collect leaves. They come inside and spread out their leaves. They sort them by size. Are there holes in any of the leaves? How many holes in each leaf? How many leaves in each group?



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

##### Chant and Act Out Life Cycle Song

Along flies a butterfly to lay an egg. (Flap arms like wings.) Soon there is a caterpillar with lots of legs. (Point to legs.) What will the caterpillar do? (Shrug shoulders.) On many leaves They will chew and chew. (Make munching mouth moves.) Then They wraps up in a cocoon. (Hug self.) Then there's a butterfly very soon! (Clap.)

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### Life Cycle of a Compliment

Children sit in a circle. Child A says a kind word to Child B. Child B smiles and says, "Thank you! I want to share kindness too." Child B says a compliment to Child C. Child C replies, "Thank you! I want to share kindness too." Play continues around the circle. Explain that the more they share kindness the more others will want to be kind and the cycle of sweetness just keeps going around and around.



"Keep spreading kindness."



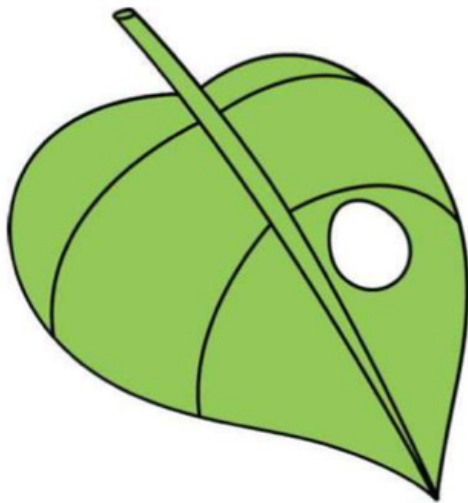
# **The Earth**







PICTURE FOR CIRCLE ACTIVITY



EGG ON A LEAF



CATERPILLAR



CHRYSALIS



BUTTERFLY

**HOW THE BUTTERFLY GROWS**





**BABY**



**SCHOOL AGE CHILD**



**ADULT (PARENT)**



**OLDER ADULT (GRANDPARENT)**

**PICTURE FOR LITERACY ACTIVITY**

# Theme for the Week



## Butterfly

### *Activities for "Passover and Eggs"*

**Materials Needed:** Picture of matzah and egg (provided), picture of things that begin with "w" (provided), picture of things that begin with w (Note: Cut them apart ahead so children can play a matching game for Literacy, green tissue paper, white 9 x 12 construction paper, paste, scrap paper, black paint, paint brushes, colored tempera paints, plastic eggs, plastic spoons



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Tell the children that today is the first day of a special holiday called Passover. Tell them that many years ago, people called the Israelites were slaves and made to do hard work. They ran away from Egypt to escape and have freedom. They did, and now every year, they celebrate that freedom on the holiday of Passover. They eat special foods like matzah instead of bread, because they didn't have time to bake bread. One of the other foods they eat is a hardboiled egg. They eat it because it is a symbol of life Show children pictures (provided).



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Things that Begin with "w"

Show the children the pictures that begin with w. Tell them what each one is. "whale, wagon, wheel, watermelon, water, and worm." Have them say each say the words. Have 2 more sheets of the pictures of the things that begin with w that are laminated and cut so there are 2 sets of individual pictures. Turn them over and mix them up and have the children match them saying the word for each and stretching out the w-w-w sound. Put them on a tray for children to use.



#### FUN ART

Eggs on a Leaf (First page of Butterfly Book)

Children tear green tissue paper to look like a large leaf. They paste it onto white 9X12 construction paper. Then they make butterfly eggs by rolling up small balls of scrap paper and painting them black. Paste the eggs onto the leaf. Save for making Butterfly Book later. (Egg, Caterpillar, Chrysalis, Butterfly will be pages in book.)



#### MATH

Egg Symmetry

Give each child a piece of construction paper. Help them fold it in half. Open it.

Have them count as they drop dabs of tempera paint on one side to be pretend eggs.

(Do a different number for each child.) Fold the paper in half. Press. Open the paper. What is inside? Count all the "eggs" now. They doubled!



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Chant and Act Out Butterfly Eggs

Eggs, eggs, eggs. Little butterfly eggs. (Put fingers close together to show little.) They sit on leaves until a special day. (Sit very still.) Then out come caterpillars ready to play! (Open arms and smile big.) Eat, eat, eat. Caterpillars eat. (Pretend to eat.) Then they become a chrysalis and sleep! (Pretend to sleep.) Sleep, sleep, sleep. Soon a butterfly will peek! (Spread arms like wings.)

#### SOCIAL SKILLS

Egg Race (Encouraging Others and Working Together)

Two or three children at a time line up with a plastic egg and a plastic spoon. They use the spoon to roll the egg across the floor to a finish line. Observing children cheer the children as they race their eggs. Once they all cross the finish line, they give high fives and say, "Good job! You are a fun friend!"

"Teachers plant seeds of goodness in children every day."



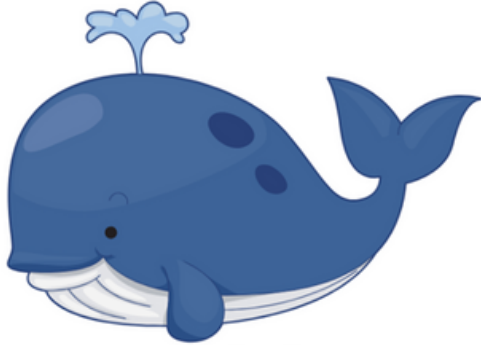
# Matzah



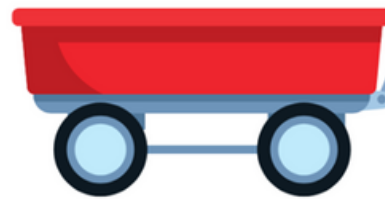
# Eggs



# Things that Begin with "w"



whale



wagon



wheel



watermelon



water



worm





# Theme for the Week



## Butterfly

### Activities for "Caterpillar"

**Materials Needed:** Picture of caterpillar (provided), chart paper, green paint, white 9 x 12 construction paper, colored pompom balls, crayons, several pre-cut circles (shape provided), paste



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Show children a picture of a caterpillar (provided). Have them notice their antennae, legs and body parts. Explain that the egg hatched into a caterpillar, and it will have more changes coming up. Tell them the caterpillar crawls. Children lie on their tummies and pretend to be a caterpillar. Chant: First it was an egg and now it is a caterpillar.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### Hungry Caterpillars

Explain that caterpillars need to eat a lot of healthy food because they will soon hibernate in a cocoon. Explain that hibernating is kind of like sleeping for a long period of time so your body needs a lot of nutrients. Children take turns naming two or three foods they would be sure to eat if they were getting ready to go into a chrysalis. Write each food named. Use tally marks when the food is repeated. Read the tally graph. Which food was chosen the most? Least?



#### FUN ART

##### Caterpillar in the Grass (Page 2 of Butterfly Book)

Children paint green grass on the bottom of a white piece of 9X12 construction paper. They paste three colored pompoms together to be the body of a caterpillar. They use a black crayon to draw antennae and feet. Save.



#### MATH

##### Caterpillar Circle Fun

Pre-cut several circle shapes (provided) on a variety of colored sheets of paper. Children sort the circles by color and size. Then say, "Show me a caterpillar with three body parts." They choose three paper circles and put them together to look like a caterpillar. Then say, "Add two more body parts to your caterpillar. How many body parts in all?" Five.  $3+2=5$ . Continue with new number combinations.



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

##### Chant Caterpillar, Caterpillar

Caterpillar, caterpillar eating leafy treats. (Pretend to eat.)  
You get bigger as you eat. (Put arms out to appear bigger.)  
You eat and eat to look like this.  
You've turned into a chrysalis!



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### What Changed? (Observing Friends)

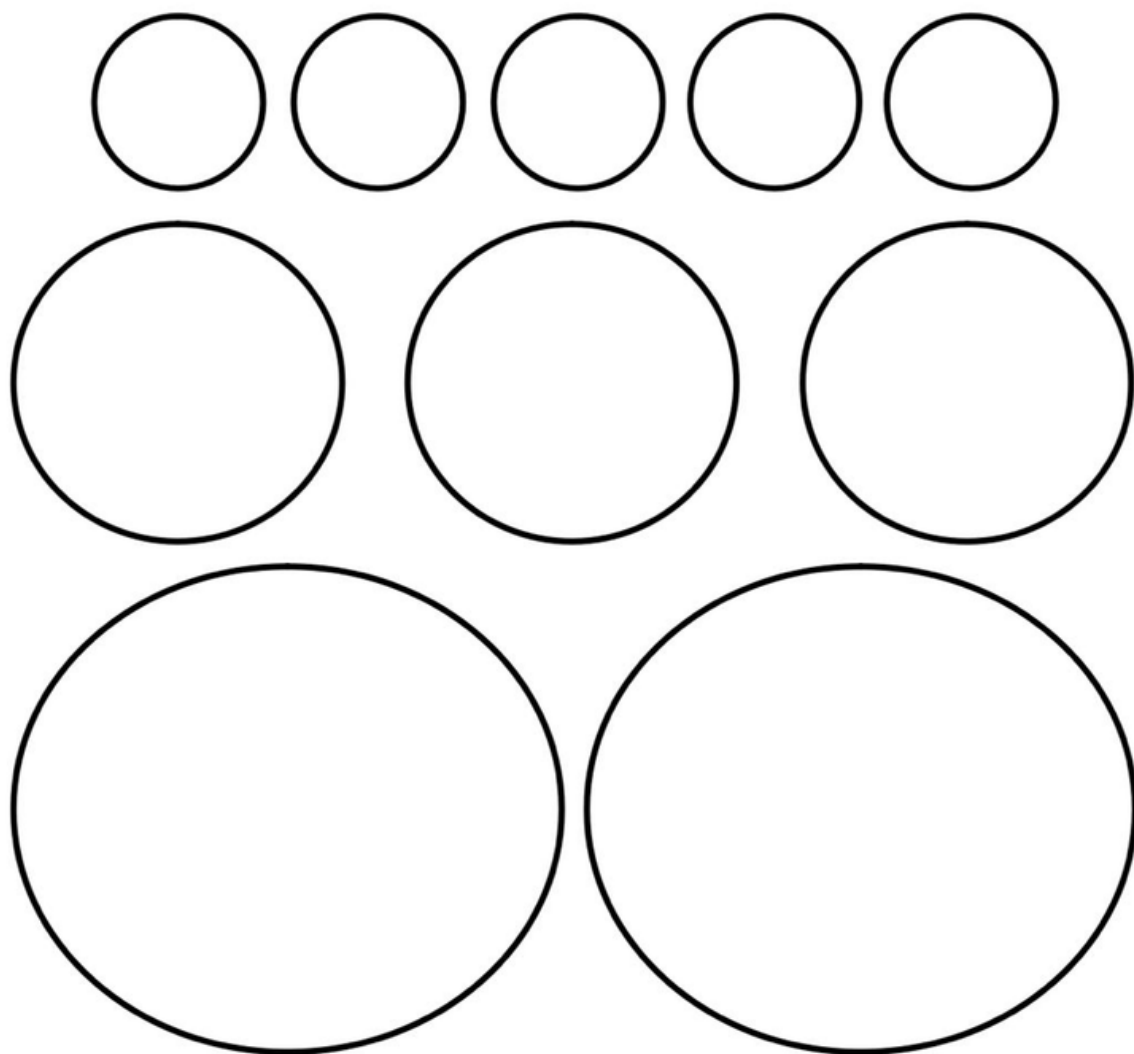
Children take turns sitting in the center of the circle. Everyone says, "Hello, Name of Friends." The child briefly leaves and changes one thing about themselves with the teacher's help. (It may be taking off a shoe, turning shirt backwards, putting on a hat, rolling up a pant leg, holding an object, etc.) The child returns to the circle and the children guess what is different. Play until each child has a turn to be in the center of the circle. Tell them that a caterpillar will soon change too.

"Some children make progress inch by inch while others mile by mile.  
That's okay. Be sure they have a happy reason to smile."



**CATER PILLAR FOR CIRCLE ACTIVITY**

**Print several copies. Have children color the circles solid colors to sort by color for Math activity.**



**CIRCLE FOR MATH ACTIVITY**

# Theme for the Week



## Butterfly

### *Activities for "Chrysalis"*

**Materials Needed:** Small objects like a toy car for Literacy, paper towels, white 9 x 12 construction paper, brown tissue paper, black paint, paint brushes, paste, twigs from outside, magnetic numbers, sheet



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Have children hug their legs in and make their bodies into a ball shape, pretending to be a chrysalis. They wiggle slowly and pop out into criss cross applesauce position. Tell the children that caterpillars go to sleep and change from a caterpillar into a chrysalis. There they sleep a while. So, it is very important that they eat lots of healthy food beforehand. They eat plants. Chant: A caterpillar becomes a chrysalis.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Word of the Day: chrysalis, cocoon

Explain that a chrysalis is like a cocoon. A chrysalis is a way to protect the caterpillar.

Children place a small object like a toy car on the floor. They wrap a paper towel around the toy car in a cocoon type appearance. They say, "The car is protected in its chrysalis like cocoon. Caterpillars are protected inside their chrysalis too." Repeat with different objects.



#### FUN ART

Chrysalis in the Tree (Page 3 of Butterfly Book)

Children paste a twig from outside onto a white piece of 9X12 construction paper.

They roll a small piece of brown tissue paper into the shape of a chrysalis. They paint black lines on the brown paper. Paste the chrysalis onto the paper so that it is hanging off the twig. Save this.



#### MATH

Chrysalis Numbers

Wrap magnetic numbers in paper towels. The paper towels are a pretend chrysalis around the numbers. Children take turns guessing the number in their chrysalis. Then they open their chrysalis to discover which number they are holding. (Help them guess their number by noting the numbers already uncovered.) Once all numbers are shown, they put the numbers in numerical order.



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Chant and Act Out Finger Play Wiggle Caterpillar Wiggle wiggle caterpillar. (Wiggle pointer finger.)

To a limb you crept. (Wiggle finger into palm of opposite hand.) You spun around into a chrysalis. (Spin around pointer finger.) Then for days you slept. (Pretend to sleep.) Wiggle wiggle caterpillar. (Wiggle pointer finger.) You woke up and wondered, "Why?" (Shrug shoulders.) You could see two beautiful wings. You've changed into to a butterfly! (Flutter arms like wings around the room.)



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

All Wrapped Up - Part One (Taking Turns and Working Together)

Children take turns being a caterpillar and turning into a chrysalis. One child wraps up in a sheet as if in a cocoon. Children chant: Caterpillar, caterpillar where are you?

The child says, "I am here in a cocoon. I am a chrysalis and you will see me soon." Save sheet for tomorrow in Social Skills.

"Teach children a way to wrap themselves in a cocoon of safety and security."



# Theme for the Week



## Butterfly

### *Activities for "Butterfly"*

**Materials Needed:** Art papers from prior days, crayons, stapler, bowtie pasta, non-toxic paints, white 9 x 12 white construction paper, paste, sheet



### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Tell children that today's flying critter is a butterfly. Show pictures of butterflies (provided). Have children look at the wings of butterflies. They are exactly the same on both sides! Have children put their arms out like pretend wings. Have them slowly flap their "wings" being careful not to touch others while chanting: Butterfly, butterfly, flying all day. Rest on a flower and then go play.



### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

**Which Letter Matches the Sound?**

Place a variety of several objects and pictures of objects in a bag. Children take turns pulling out an object/picture and then say what letter it starts with or points to the letter displayed in the classroom. For example, if the child pulls out a picture of a butterfly they say B and/or point to the letter B.



### FUN ART

**Butterfly Snacks**

Give each child a clothespin. They paint it and add eyes to the top part. Paste two small pieces of pipe cleaners to the clothespin so that they become antennae. Next, half fill a snack size plastic baggie with healthy snacks such as raisins, goldfish, etc. (You bring the snacks or have children bring snacks from home.) Cinch the center of the snack baggie and clip the clothespin into the center of the baggie. See photo sample (provided). Note: Always make sure to be cautious with children and plastic.)



### MATH

**Wing Symmetry**

Give each child a piece of construction paper. Help them fold it in half. Open it. Have them count as you drop dabs of paint on one side. Do a different number for each child.) Fold the paper in half. Press and open. What is inside? Count all the dabs now.



### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

**Chant and Act Out Caterpillar, Caterpillar**

Children sit in a circle with a small blanket wrapped around each of them. Tell them to pretend they are in a cocoon. You say, "Caterpillars, caterpillars, where are you?" They open up their blankets, stand up and flap their arms around the room while chanting: I'm now a butterfly and can fly in the sky.



### SOCIAL SKILLS

**Clover Friend (Working Together)**

It's St Patrick's Day. Give children several four-leaf clovers to share. Children can pair up and give their buddy one clover at a time counting each one. They share clovers and take turns counting. When finished, they say to each other, "Thank you for sharing your four-leaf clovers with me."

"You help children grow into more beautiful beings."



PHOTO SAMPLE FOR ART



**BUTTERFLIES FOR CIRCLE ACTIVITY**

# Theme for the Week



## Weather

### *Activities for "Sunshine"*

**Materials Needed:** Sunglasses, paper plates, yellow paint, picture of Dress the w-w-w, (provided), art supplies like pompoms, paste, cut-up small pieces of tissue paper, crayons, craft sticks, paste, large yellow circle, orange and yellow strips of paper



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Look out the window at the weather today. Is it sunny, rainy, cloudy, windy, cold, or hot? Today we will learn more about sunny weather. Put on sunglasses. Ask children what sunglasses are for. What are some activities we can do in sunny weather? (Swim, play outside) Remind children that the sun helps plants grow too. Check the seeds planted two weeks ago. List words that rhyme with the word "sun." (bun, fun, nun, run)



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Dress the w-w-w

Show children the lowercase tactile w again. Have them trace it in the air as they say, "w-w-w."

Give them the "Dress the w-w-w" (provided), Have them decorate their w's with art supplies like pompoms, stickers, feathers, scraps of cut up tissue paper, and crayons



#### FUN ART

Cool Off Fans

Cool air feels good on very sunny days. Give each child a paper plate. Have them paint it yellow like the sun. When the paint dries they can make a happy face on the sun. Paste a craft stick on the backside of the plate to make it a fan. (Save for music time.)



#### MATH

Sun Rays

Place a large yellow circle on the floor. Give each child a strip of yellow and a strip of orange paper. Children add one strip (ray) at a time around the yellow circle (sun) to make a pattern of yellow, orange, yellow, orange. Repeat several times with different patterns. (Save the sun with rays for social skills today.)



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing "This Little Sun of Mine"

Children wave their sun fans from art while singing: This little sun of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.

This little sun of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

It will make us smile, a smile that is so fine. It will make us smile, a smile that is so fine, so fine, so fine.



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

You Are Like a Sunshine Smile

Children sit in a circle. One child sits in the middle on a picture of the sun with its rays made in math.

Children take turns telling the child in the middle, "You are like a sunshine smile (because you share toys with me, play with me, make me laugh, etc.);" Continue until each child has a turn to sit on the sun and receive compliments. Also review the Sunshine Box made previously in February if you were subscribed. Review appropriate times to look at their Sunshine Boxes.

"Teachers are a ray of sunshine in the lives of children."





**Dress the “w-w-w”**

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# Theme for the Week



## Weather

### *Activities for "Rain"*

**Materials Needed:** Umbrella, paper to cut out raindrops, butcher paper, spray bottles, food coloring, eye droppers, small cups, cookie sheet, tape, poster board



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Look out the window at the weather today. Is it sunny, rainy, cloudy, windy, cold, or hot? Today we will learn more about rainy weather. Open an umbrella. Ask children what umbrellas are for. What are some activities we can do in rainy weather? (puddle jump, sing in the rain, stay inside and play) Remind children that the rain helps plants grow too. Check the seeds planted two weeks ago.

Sing: Rain, rain, go away. Come again another day.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### Rhyming Raindrops

Cut out several rain drop shapes from paper. Write one word on each raindrop. Be sure to have a word that rhymes on a second raindrop. (Ex: big/pig. six/mix bat/cat.) Children partner raindrops with rhyming words by looking for words that have the same ending letters. Tape onto poster board for all the children to see. Read each pair with the children.

Underline the letters that rhyme.



#### FUN ART

##### Rain Art

Place a large piece of butcher paper on a wall or the floor. Fill a few spray bottles with water and drops of food coloring. Children take turns "raining" onto the butcher paper by spraying the colored water at the paper to create a class art design.



#### MATH

##### Counting Raindrops

Fill droppers with water. Children empty the dropper one drop at a time and count each drop as they drop it into a small cup. How many drops fill a dropper? Do all the cups have the same amount of water?

#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

##### Rain Dance

Children create the sound of a rainstorm while sitting at a table.

- \* First is the sound of wind (rub hands in a circle on the table).
- \* Next are raindrops (tap fingertips softly on table).
- \* Next is the rain (tap fingers quickly and loudly on the table).
- \* Finally the hard rain (pat palms on table)

(Now go backwards for the rain to stop - rain, rain drops, wind)



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

##### Rain Teamwork

Two children sit with a tilted cookie sheet, and each child has a dropper of water. The teacher says, "Go," and they each squeeze one drop at the top of the cookie sheet. They watch it move to the bottom to see if their drops can fall at the same time to the bottom. They do it several times until they can have their drops arrive together as a team. At the end the children say, "Yay! We did it. We are a good team. Thanks for playing with me."



# Theme for the Week



## Weather

### *Activities for "Icy Freeze"*

**Materials Needed:** Baggie half filled with water baggie with frozen water, craft sticks, tray of rice, shaving cream, construction paper, ice cube trays, cookie sheet, small tub or bin filled with sand and magnetic letters the children have learned, whiteboard and marker



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Look out the window at the weather today. Is it sunny, rainy, cloudy, windy, cold, or hot? Today we will learn more about icy cold weather. Pass around a baggie half filled with water followed by a baggie with frozen water. (Be sure to pre-freeze a baggie filled half way with water.) Why is one hard and the other not? (It is frozen.) Put the water baggie in the freezer to check on throughout the day. Fill an ice tray with water and food coloring. Cover with plastic wrap. Poke a popsicle stick into each cube. Freeze and save for art time.



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Sensory Digging for Treasure Sounds (Day 1)

Fill a medium sized bin with sand or salt. Then add half of the magnetic letters the children have learned, l, f, n, l, o, x, g, y, v, w. Review the sounds writing them each on a whiteboard, and say them with the children. Then children take turns using take small shovel (like for the beach), to dig for sounds. When they find a sound, they say what it is. Example: "I found a g-g-g." The class claps and says, "\_\_\_\_\_ (Name of child) found a g-g-g."



#### FUN ART

Ice Cube Painting

Children each get a frozen cube from the tray prepared during circle today. Use it as a paintbrush to make a picture on construction paper. (Rinse the empty ice cube tray and save for math today.)



#### MATH

Ice Cube Sort

Children count how many cubes are in an ice cube tray. Have them sort a variety of small objects into the tray. (Ex: buttons, beans, candies, etc.)



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing and Act Out Brrrr It's Cold Brrrr, it's cold. I need a hand to hold.  
Brrrr, it's a freeze. I need a hug squeeze.  
Brrrr, where is my coat? And a scarf for my throat!



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

Ice Cubes Together

Two children sit with a tilted cookie sheet, and each child has an ice cube.

The teacher says, "Go," and they each drop their ice cubes to slide down the cookie sheet. They watch it move to the bottom to see if they can have their ice cubes slide at the same time together and land at the bottom together. They do it over and over until their cubes land at the same time or are melted. Afterwards, they say, "Yay! Thanks for playing with me."

"Teachers get to melt the hearts of children."

# Theme for the Week



## Weather

### *Activities for "Clouds"*

**Materials Needed:** Cotton ball, picture of clouds (provided), picture of counting raindrops (provided), counters or cut up pieces of paper to be "pretend raindrops," blue construction paper, white construction paper, cotton balls, paste, white bread slice for each child, small tub or bin filled with sand and magnetic letters the children have learned, whiteboard and marker



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Look out the window at the weather today. Is it sunny, rainy, cloudy, windy, cold, or hot? Today we will learn more about cloudy weather. Pass around a cotton ball. This is not a real cloud, but it looks like a cloud. Show a picture of a cloud (provided). Have children share words to describe it (fluffy, white, big).



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

##### Sensory Digging for Treasure Sounds (Day 2)

Fill a medium sized bin with sand or salt. Then add half of the magnetic letters the children have learned, m, s, t, r, a, p, h, c, b, l, f, n. Review the sounds writing them each on a whiteboard, and say them with the children. Then children take turns using take small shovel (like for the beach), to dig for sounds. When they find a sound, they say what it is. Example: "I found a b-b-b." The class claps and says, "\_\_\_\_\_ (Name of child) found a b-b-b."



#### FUN ART

##### Torn Art

Give each child a piece of blue construction paper. Children tear white construction paper and/or cotton balls to paste onto the blue paper in the shape of clouds.



#### MATH

##### Counting Raindrops

Give each child picture of "Counting Raindrops (provided). Give them counters or cut-up tiny pieces of paper that will be "pretend rain." Tell them that clouds are filled with tiny water droplets. When these droplets grow and become heavy, they fall to the ground as rain. Show them the big cloud that is filled with rain on their paper. Write different numbers they have learned on a whiteboard and say the number, and that's how many raindrops they put on their sheets of paper. Each time they are finished, have them say, "Hurray. We are counting raindrops."



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

##### Sing Rain, Rain Go Away

Rain, rain, go away. Come again another day. My friend and I want to play.

The rain comes pouring from the clouds and the thunder is so loud. Rain, rain, go away. Come again another day. My friend and I want to play.



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

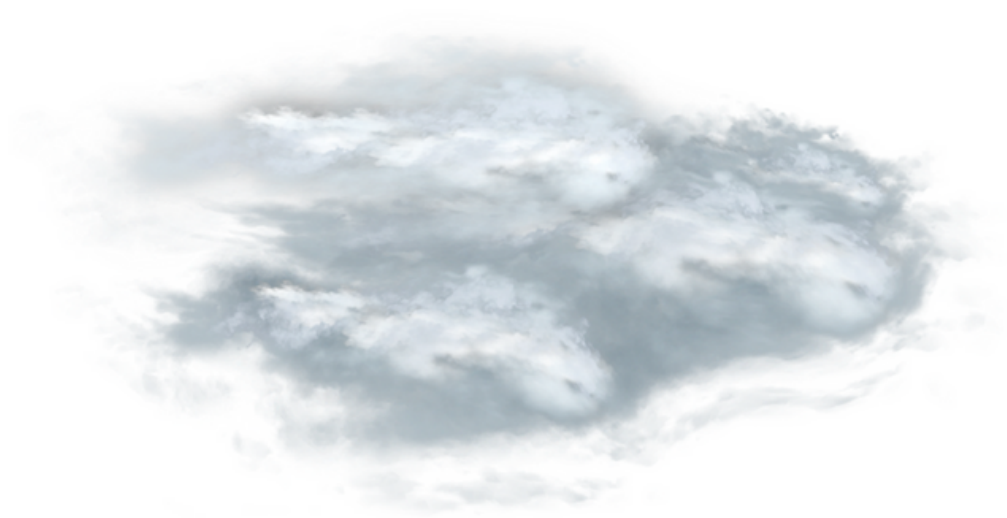
##### Cloud Tossing Teamwork

Children pair up and face each other. One child holds a piece of blue paper. The second child tosses a cloud (cotton ball) onto the sky (blue paper). The child holding the paper tries to catch the cloud on the paper. Play until each child gets to be the cloud and the sky a couple of times. When finished, children say, "Thanks for playing with me," to each other.

"When clouds cover the smile of a child give them hope that all will clear up soon."



# Clouds



# Counting Raindrops



# Theme for the Week



## Weather

### *Activities for "Wind"*

**Materials Needed:** Bubbles, pinwheel, streamers, tape, piece of paper, construction paper, food coloring, straws, index cards numbered 1-10



#### CIRCLE ACTIVITIES

Look out the window at the weather today. Is it sunny, rainy, cloudy, windy, cold, or hot? Today we will learn about windy weather. Blow bubbles. Have children notice that when you blow air from your mouth it is wind making the bubble. Blow on a pinwheel and streamers. Tell children the air from your mouth makes wind to make the pinwheel and streamers move. Sing to tune of Frere Jacques: I am wind, I am wind. Watch me blow, watch me blow. Whoosh, whoosh, whoosh. (Children blow out of their mouths as they say, "Whoosh.")



#### LANGUAGE-LITERACY

Word of the day: air

Tell children that wind is moving air. We cannot see air, but we can see the effects. Look outside. Are the tree branches moving? If yes, that is wind. Place a piece of paper on the floor. Children blow on the paper with their mouths. Does the paper move? Yes, because of air from our mouths. Repeat the bubble, pinwheel and streamers from circle time.

#### FUN ART

Air Art

Give each child a piece of construction paper with a couple of drops of colored water (colored with food coloring). Children take turns blowing through a straw to get the air to move the colored water on the paper. (It is important to take turns blowing through the straw so children can be closely monitored.)



#### MATH

Scattered Numbers

Number index cards 1 - 20. (Make odd numbers one color and even numbers a different color.) Blow with a straw to scatter the numbers. Children collect the numbers and put them in order while counting to 20. Notice the repeating pattern as well.



#### MUSIC-MOVEMENT

Sing "Wind, Wind" (tune of Row, Row, Row Your Boat) Wind, wind is moving air. It blows through trees everywhere.

Wind, wind, can you see it moving through my hair?

(Children gently move their heads back and forth like the wind was blowing their hair.)



#### SOCIAL SKILLS

Catch My Bubble

Children take turns blowing a bubble to their friend to see if the friend can catch it. One child says, "Please blow a bubble so I can catch it." The child blows the bubble. The friend catches it, and says, "Thank you."



"Wind is invisible, but we see it move things. A child's spirit is invisible, but we can see it move, too. Teachers are powerful moving agents in the lives of children."